

Claims

[c1]

*Sub
a1*

1. A method, comprising:

attaching a tunable damping element to a resonating element; and
increasing an amount of tension in said resonating element to increase a
resonant frequency of the resonating element in a way that decreases an
effect of stimulated audio on the resonant element.

[c2]

2. A method as in claim 1, wherein said tunable damping element includes a
rod which is connected to said resonating element, and wherein said
increasing includes tightening said tunable damping element, to increase an
amount of tension in said resonating element.

[c3]

3. A method as in claim 1, wherein said resonating element includes a cabinet
with facing surfaces, and said rod extends between said facing surfaces to
tension said alternating surfaces relative to one another.

[c4]

4. A method as in claim 1, wherein said resonating element includes an
automobile.

[c5]

5. A method as in claim 1, wherein said resonating element includes a
speaker enclosure.

[c6]

6. A method as in claim 2, wherein said tightening comprises providing a
washer on the rod, and tightening the washer against a surface of the
resonating element.

[c7]

7. A method as in claim 6, further comprising coupling a sound damping
material to said washer.

[c8]

8. A method as in claim 7, wherein said increasing comprises tuning the
resonating element to a frequency related to characteristics of the sound
damping material.

[c9]

9. A method as in claim 8, wherein said characteristics include a maximum
frequency of maximum sound absorption of the sound damping material.

- [c10] 10. A method, comprising:
forming an audio enclosure which produces audio frequencies at a specified frequency; and
tuning a resonant frequency to increase a resonant frequency of the enclosure to a level outside of a bandwidth of the audio frequencies.
- [c11] 11. A method as in claim 10, wherein said resonant frequency tuning comprises using a variable tension device to increase a tension of said audio enclosure.
- [c12] 12. A method as in claim 11 wherein said variable tension device comprises a rod with threads, which is selectively tightened to increase a tension.
- [c13] 13. A method as in claim 12, further comprising attaching a sound damping material to the enclosure, and wherein said tuning comprises tuning the enclosure to an optimum frequency of said sound damping material.
- [c14] 14. A device, comprising:
a mechanical structure having opposing surfaces; and
a resonant frequency tuning element, coupled between said opposing surfaces, and selectively tunable to change a resonant frequency of said mechanical structure.
- [c15] 15. A device as in claim 14, wherein said resonant frequency tuning element is coupled in a way to increase said resonant frequency of said mechanical structure.
- [c16] 16. A device as in claim 14, wherein said resonant frequency tuning element includes a threaded rod with screw threads thereon, and at least one nut which is tightened to increase a tension between said opposing surfaces of said mechanical structure.
- [c17] 17. A device as in claim 16, wherein said resonant frequency tuning element further includes at least one washer, which is pressed against said surfaces of said mechanical structure.

- [c18] 18. A device as in claim 14, further comprising a sound damping material, coupled to said resonant frequency tuning element.
- [c19] 19. A device as in claim 18, wherein said sound damping material is a constrained layer damping material.
- [c20] 20. A method, comprising:
providing a sound damping material on mechanical structure, having opposing surfaces, coupled to at least one of said opposing surfaces, and operating to damp at least part of an effect of sound on said mechanical structure; and
tuning a resonant frequency of said mechanical structure, to a value which is within an optimum range for said sound damping material.
- [c21] 21. A method as in claim 20, wherein said sound damping material is a constrained layer damping material.
- [c22] 22. A method as in claim 20, wherein said tuning comprises increasing a tension between said opposing surfaces to increase a resonant frequency of said structure.